9   node unaffiliated with the server as an [informational] aid in determining [the] a best then available

10 space [or seating or time] conforming to a need of [that] the end-user[s] [definition for any activity

11 or event];

12   (c)   providing [through said device connected to said] over the wide area network to

13 [any] the end user the capability of interactively selecting one of a time, a space, and a seat [or

14 seating] of [his] choice;

15   (d)   [providing through said device connected to said] accepting over the wide area

16 network [to any] from the end user [the] [capability of paying] a payment for one of [for] the time,

17 [or] the space, [or] and the [seating] seat selection of [his] choice;

18   (e)   returning [through said device connected to said] over the wide area network to

19 [any] the end user verification of the successful completion of [his transaction such acting as a

20 ticket or tickets or voucher for exchange for a ticket or tickets or confirmation upon arrival at the

21 physical location of the activity or event for which space or time or ticketing was secured] the

22 payment.

1   2.   (Amended)   The method described in claim 1 wherein the space, [or] the time,

2   [or] and seat [or seating] sought is for a theater or theater type setting.

1   3.   (Amended)   The method described in claim 1 wherein the space, [or] the time,

2   [or] and the seat [or seating] sought is for a stadium [or other such] type setting.

1   6.   (Amended)   The method described in claim 1 wherein [the] a communication

2   connection between the information server and the end user [is] includes one of a wire, [or] a

3   cable, [or] and a telephone line connection.

1   11.   (Amended)   The method described in claim 1 wherein [the] a communication

2   connection between the information server and the end user [is] includes a satellite link.

1   16.   (Amended)   The method described in claim 1 wherein [the] a communication

2   connection between the information server and the end user[is] includes a wireless link.

Please add the following new claims:

1   --24.   A method comprising:

2   receiving at a server a request for a venue from at least one client node remote from and

3   unaffiliated with the server;

4   transmitting from the server an indication of specific availability responsive to the request,

5   the indication of specific availability directed to the client node;

6   receiving a specific indication of a client preference at the server;

7   removing the client preference from any future indication of specific availability.--

1   --25.   The method of claim 24, wherein the specific availability includes seating, further

2   comprising:

3   retrieving from a database an image showing a view from a seat indicated by the client

4   preference;

5   transmitting the image to the client.--

1   --26.   The method of claim 24, wherein the indication of specific availability includes a

2   graphical representation of at least a portion of a seating chart for the venue, and wherein the

3   graphical representation shows availability seats in a first representation and previously sold seats

4   in a second representation.--

1   --27.   The method of claim 24, wherein the indication of the specific availability is

2   transmitted as one of a hypertext markup language page and a java applet.--

1   --28.   The method of claim 26 further comprising:

2   linking the representation of a seat to an image of a view from that seat.--

1   --29. The method of claim 24 further comprising:

2   accepting payment information at the server sufficient to permit access to the specific client

3   preference;

4   conducting an electronic payment transaction; and

5   providing an electronic receipt.--

1   --30. A method comprising:

2   requesting information about a venue across a wide area network (WAN) from a client

3   node to be supplied by an unaffiliated server node;

4   receiving an indication of specific availability at the client node;

5   selecting from a plurality of specific availability options a specific client preference; and

6   receiving an indication that the specific client preference has been reserved through the

7   server node.--

1   --31. The method of claim 30 wherein the indication of specific availability includes a

2   graphical representation of at least a portion of a seating chart for the venue, and wherein the

3   graphical representation shows available seats in a first representation and previously sold seats in

4   a second representation.--

1   --32. The method of claim 31 wherein selecting comprises:

2   clicking on a desired seat.--

1   --33. The method of claim 32 further comprising:

2   receiving an image of a view from the desired seat responsive to the clicking.--